

Along with hundreds of volunteers, Honor Flight Chicago recognizes World War II Veterans with a day of gratitude, remembrance, and celebration. Because of their tireless dedication, veterans throughout northeast Illinois and northwest Indiana travel cost-free to see these memorials in Washington and return to a boisterous and heartwarming Chicago homecoming with family and friends that you have to see to believe.

As our nation loses approximately 900 World War II veterans every day, Honor Flight works hard to ensure these heroes have an opportunity to fulfill their dreams and receive the thanks they deserve before it's too late.

Since February 2008, Honor Flight Chicago has flown more than 2,000 veterans to their war memorial at no cost to them. More than 700 guardians and volunteers work day-in and day-out to raise the funds necessary to accomplish this mission and reach as many of the 25,000 World War II veterans living in the Chicago area as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the work of Honor Flight Chicago and in honoring our nation's veterans.

RECOGNITION OF MR. ROBERTO
FERRAGINA

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Roberto Ferragina of Long Branch, New Jersey. Mr. Ferragina is the recipient of the 2012 Amerigo Vespucci Society's "Man of the Year" Award and will be recognized for his unyielding community service. Mr. Ferragina is a valuable member of my Congressional district and is deserving of this body's recognition.

Roberto Ferragina was born in Long Branch, New Jersey to Salvatore and Barbara Maria Ferragina. Mr. Ferragina attended Red Bank Catholic High School and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and a Minor in Political Science from Kean State College. He also completed a Master of Arts and Master of Administrative Science from Monmouth University and Fairleigh Dickinson University, respectively. Mr. Ferragina is an accomplished athlete and was a member of the Cross Country and Track teams in High School and College. As a result of his superior performance, he was named Captain of the Red Bank Catholic High School's Men's Cross Country Team and Indoor and Outdoor Track Team. He remains an active runner in the local community. Mr. Ferragina is currently employed as the Northeast Regional Sales Manager for Mohawk, North America's largest privately held premium substrate manufacturer. He is happily married to his wife Marianne.

Mr. Ferragina developed a strong connection to his Italian heritage and culture at an early age. As an active member of the Amerigo Vespucci Society, Mr. Ferragina was elected to serve as the organization's President. He also served as the Secretary of Archives. Mr. Ferragina is dedicated to assisting with the organization of numerous events hosted by the Amerigo Vespucci Society, including the Wine Tasting Gala, in which he

served as Chairman. In addition to his involvement with the Amerigo Vespucci Society, Mr. Ferragina is a National Council Member of the National Italian American Foundation and member of the National Order Sons of Italy in America, William Marconi Italian Society, and the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum. Mr. Ferragina also volunteers his time each summer with the Ray Licata Memorial Swim hosted annually in Long Branch. He is also involved with the organization of the Long Branch Columbus Day Parade.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Mr. Roberto Ferragina upon receiving the Amerigo Vespucci Society's "Man of the Year" award and thanking him for his service to the Italian American community.

SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN
VALLEY WATER RELIABILITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 29, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1837) to address certain water-related concerns on the San Joaquin River, and for other purposes:

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, as the author of the 2004's Water Supply, Reliability and Environmental Improvement Act, also known as CALFED, I strongly supported H.R. 1837, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act. This bill is an important step in preventing onerous regulations from creating another manmade drought like the one that devastated farms and families in California's San Joaquin Valley in 2009 and 2010. As a result of this man-made drought, many farmers lost their livelihoods and many communities saw unemployment rates top 50 percent as jobs dried up with their water.

With California once again faced with record low precipitation this year, we cannot wait to act. Among other things, H.R. 1837 would restore water deliveries to communities by codifying the Bay-Delta Accord and protects and secures private property and senior water rights. This bill will ensure communities will no longer have their water cut off and diverted due to heavy-handed environmental regulation and litigation that attempts to place fish before farmers and families.

This bill protects over 30,000 jobs and strikes a common sense balance between environmental regulations and environmental realities to ensure that California's Central Valley will never again be plunged into man-made drought. I commend my colleague Representative DEVIN NUNES of California for his leadership in crafting this important piece of legislation.

TRIBUTE TO JANET E. CLEGHORN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine,

Janet Cleghorn. Jan passed away on Thursday, February 16, 2012. Jan was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother and she will be deeply missed.

Jan was born July 20, 1936 in Los Angeles, California. She was the daughter of Howard B. Everett and Florence Mae Hunt. On February 3, 1956, Jan married her high school sweetheart John Cleghorn. John would later serve as Corona's Chief of Police. Jan cherished her role as wife, mother and homemaker for 56 years.

Jan loved family, friends, crafting, RV traveling, decorating her home and more recently "Facebook social networking." She was a member of the Philanthropic Educational Organization Chapter SI, Corona-Riverside U.S. Navy League, Corona Heritage Foundation (Museum Docent Heritage Park), Trilogy RVers and Friday Night-Dinner Group.

Jan is survived by her husband, John Cleghorn, father, Howard B. Everett, son, David Cleghorn, daughter, Nancy (Tim) O'Gorman, daughter, Karen (Roger, Sr.) Minnick, grandchildren, Roger (Angela) Minnick, Jr., Elijah Minnick, Jonah Minnick, Melissa O'Gorman, Joseph O'Gorman, great-grandchildren, Berkleigh Minnick and Max Minnick. Memorial Services to celebrate Jan's life were held at Trilogy Lodge Ballroom, Tuesday, February 28, 2012.

Jan will always be remembered for her devotion to family, caring nature and selfless giving. Her dedication to those she loved is a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Jan's family and friends; although Jan may be gone, the light and goodness she brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK EDWARD
EMERSON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Frank Emerson. Frank passed away peacefully at Corona Regional Medical Center on Saturday, February 25, 2012 with his wife, Belvia and son, Bob at his side. Frank was a pillar of the community in Corona, California and he will be deeply missed.

As a young man, Frank attended the University of Redlands on a basketball scholarship and after college decided to join the Army. Frank then decided to go into the family business and ran Emerson's Men's Wear successfully for many years. Frank took on a partner, long time employee Jim Pauly, to help with Emerson's Men's Wear. Frank was a successful businessman and dedicated community servant. Frank served on many civic groups through the years, including the Corona Planning Commission. His life was a testament to his family who had settled in Corona in the early 1900s.

Frank leaves behind his wife of 53 years Belvia, Daughter, Elizabeth Jenkins of Texas; son, Robert "Bob" Emerson of Corona and their respective families. He was preceded in death by his son Donald. He also has five grandchildren and many other family and friends who will miss Frank's big heart and quick smile.